



Mr. *Elam Potter's*

Two S E R M O N S

O N T H E

Amiabilitys of J E S U S C H R I S T



TWO
S E R M O N S
ON THE
Amiability of JESUS CHRIST.

INSCRIBED

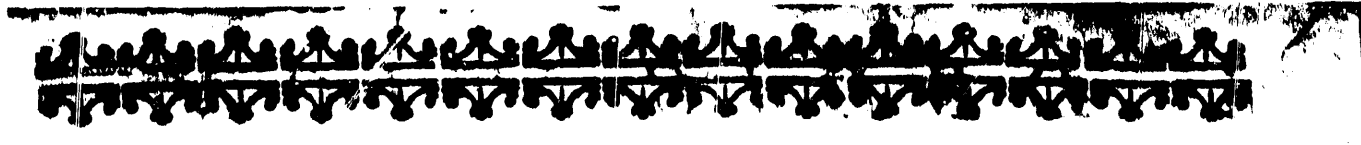
To the destitute People and
vacant Congregations in
*Virginia, the Carolinas, and
Georgia*, where the Author's
Labours, in Person, have
lately been received.

By *ELAM POTTER*, A.M.

PASTOR of a CHURCH of CHRIST in ENFIELD.

B O S T O N ; N E W - E N G L A N D :

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To the destitute People and
vacant Congregations, in
Virginia, the *Carolinas*,
and *Georgia*, where the
Author's Labours in Per-
son, have lately been re-
ceived, He wisheth Grace,
Mercy and Peace.

Honoured and Worthy Friends,

I Retain a most grateful Sense
of the many Tokens of your
Love, I receiv'd, when ac-
cording to the Desire of the
Rev'd *Synod of New-York* and
Philadelphia, I made a preach-
ing Tour among you, in the
Year 1767, and ---68.

May

May you ever retain the Word you heard with Engagedness.

I have not ceased to make frequent Mention of you in my Prayers, from the Time I left you.

And now, as a Pledge of my earnest Desire for your Salvation, I inscribe to you these two short Sermons, on the *Amiability of our Lord JESUS CHRIST* : If GOD shall please to make them a Blessing to any Souls, my Heart shall rejoice.

Such of you as are acquainted with CHRIST, and know Him, will see how we come infinitely

DEDICATION. vii

finitely short of expressing his Glory ;--a View of Him by Faith swallows up all Expression !

The Reason why I write to you now, is because I cannot come among you in Person.

The Reason why I have wrote upon this Subject, is because it is incomparably the most excellent of all Subjects.

The Reason why I have wrote at all, is because God hath given me, who am ~~one~~ of the greatest Sinners, to ~~feel~~ the Power and Reality of these Truths.

What makes me confident this small and imperfect Performance, will be acceptable, at least to some of God's People, is

viii DEDICATION.

is the good Reception you gave me, and the repeated Acknowledgments I have received from many, since my Return.

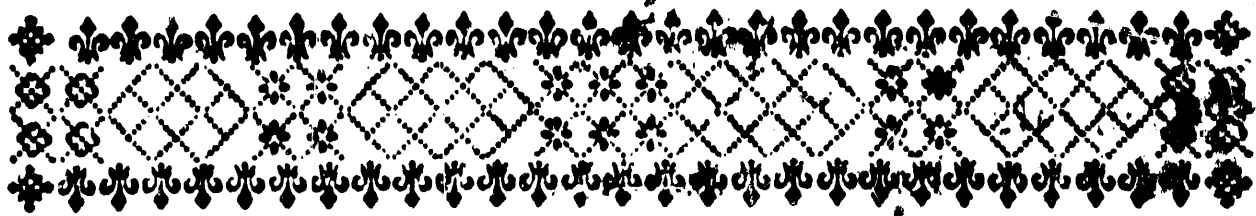
Though I am the least of God's Ministers, yet through CHRIST strengthening me, I shall be ever ready to serve his Church, 'till I hope at Death to be translated to the still sweeter Employments above.---

And that this may be thy inexpressible Happiness, courteous Reader, is the earnest Prayer of thy ever ready Servant,

for CHRIST's Sake,

Enfield,
in Connecticut,
December—1770.

E. P.



S E R M O N I.

The Amiableness of JESUS CHRIST.

SOLOMON'S SONG, V. 16.

Yea, He is altogether lovely.

THIS Book is a Dialogue betwixt the Spouse and her Beloved; the Spouse is the CHURCH, and her Beloved is CHRIST. The Spouse being asked by the Daughters of Jerusalem, wherein her Beloved differed from another Beloved, she begins in the tenth Verse and goes on, in the most sublime Manner, extolling his Excellencies 'till she comes to the Text, and then despairing of finding Language able to express the Greatness of his Glory, she breaks out with this short, but most comprehensive Encomium:—*Yea, he is altogether lovely.*

As much as if the Spouse had said, “ O ye
 “ Daughters of *Jerusalem*, do ye indeed enquire
 “ after the Excellencies of my Beloved ? O that I
 “ were able to relate them ! But all the Powers of
 “ Language fail me ! His Glory, brighter than the
 “ Sun, dazzles my Comprehension ! I am unable
 “ to conceive and far less able to express his Beauty.
 “ I can say no more, he is the chiefest among ten
 “ Thousands and altogether lovely ! ” A Novice
 will see this is not the Language of the World ;—
 it is the Language of the Saints in the World ;—and
 it is the Language of Heaven ; and none are qualified
 for Heaven, ’till they have learnt this Language
 upon Earth.

I DESIGN to treat on the Amiability of CHRIST,
 and shew wherein *He is altogether lovely*.

CHRIST is altogether lovely in his Person, in his
 Offices, in his Stations, and in his Relations to the
 Believer.

I. MY FRIENDS, let us take a View of Him
 who is altogether lovely in his Person.—Not a King
 upon his Throne,—not a Prince in his royal Robes,
 but the King of Glory, the Prince of Peace, the
 Wonder of Angels, and the Astonishment of Saints,
 we are now invited to behold ! And what is his
 glorious Person ? If we view Him in his divine
 Nature, behold he is GOD coequal with the Father
 in every divine Attribute. He is the Alpha and the
 Omega, the first and the last, who is, who was,
 and who art to come, the Almighty GOD. He is
 the Root, as well as the Offspring of *David*, the
 bright

bright and the Morning Star.—He was before all Worlds, and by Him all Worlds were made. And to deny his Divinity, is to outdo the Infidelity of Devils, who from long Experience of his Power, acknowledge Him *the Son of God*. And Deists, too late, will know it when they shall feel his Wrath. And if nothing strike the Infidel 'till Death strike him into Hell, sure I am woful Experience will strike him into the Knowledge of this Truth.

BUT let us descend to our Lord's *Humanity*. And as it was said upon another Occasion, *Behold the Man!* What was astonishing and beyond the Wisdom of all created Beings, this eternal Son of God, according to eternal Covenant with the Father, did in Time condescend so infinitely low, as to become one of the Descendants of *Adam* by extraordinary Generation. He took upon Him a true Body and a reasonable Soul, and was a perfect Man in every Power.—But what rendered him infinitely more glorious than all the Sons of Men, He had not the least Sin to stain his untarnish'd Character. These two Natures in our Lord, divine and humane, were necessary in order to render him a Mediator betwixt God and Man. O how wonderful! and unspeakably glorious is this Person!

II. CHRIST is altogether amiable and glorious in his threefold Office, of Prophet, Priest, and King.

I. In his *Prophetical* Office. By his Word and Spirit, He reveals God's Mind and Will to us, for our Salvation. It is by this glorious Prophet the whole Book of divine Revelation is handed down to the World: He is the Amen, the faithful and true Witness; and his Name is called the Word of God.

AND as a most glorious Prophet he comes by his Spirit, and agreeable to his Word, he enlightens his People. Great indeed was that Promise to his Disciples that he would send them another Comforter, the "Holy Spirit, who should convince the World of Sin, of Righteousness and of Judgment." This Promise was in Part fulfilled in the Days of Pentecost, when Thousands were converted in a Day. Then bold and daring Sinners were brought upon their Knees, and being pricked with the Arrows of Conscience to the Heart, they enquire with the greatest Importunity, as every one must that obtains, *What shall we do?* Christ by his Spirit enlightens the Mind agreeable to his Word, to behold the Glories of the divine Nature, and to understand the divine Will. If we had always groped in Midnight, and the Sun should break out at Noon-day, perhaps it would not be so astonishing as when Christ enlightens a poor Soul. O Believer, did you then think He is altogether lovely!

2. CHRIST is altogether glorious and lovely in his *Priestly Office*: The Office of the Jewish High-Priests was to offer Sacrifice for their own Sins, and then for the Sins of the People; but the Blood of Bulls and Goats and all other Sacrifice being insufficient to take away Sins, they only shadowed forth the infinitely more glorious Oblation of Christ, wherein he offer'd up his human Soul and Body a Sacrifice, to atone for the Sins of the World.

THE Oblation of Christ consists in his perfect Life, and in his meritorious Death. In his most holy and exemplary Life,—He yielded perfect Obedience to the divine Law, in Man's Stead;—and because there could be no Remission of Sins, without the Penalty of the

the Law was answered, he submitted to suffer the infinite Weight of his Father's Wrath, which would have sunk the whole human Race to endless Perdition. And our Lord having accomplished this Oblation on the Cross, he cried, *It is finished!* and bowing his Head, he gave up the Ghost; and the Vail of the Temple was rent in twain, to signify that by his own Blood he had now made a Way for Sinners into the Holiest of Holies. From this inexhaustible Fountain of Christ's Oblation, flow all the Blessings of the Believer.—Hence arises Pardon of Sin,—Freedom from Guilt,—Freedom from divine Wrath,—Restoration to divine Favour,—Adoption into the Family of God's Saints;—and hence arises sanctifying Grace, persevering Grace,—and some sweet Foretastes and Prelibations of eternal Glory, 'till finally the Believer shall be swallowed up in the full Vision and Fruition of God in Glory. These are Streams, more precious than Rivers of Gold, that flow from the inexhaustible Fountain of Christ's Oblation. And he that possesses them is richer than *Cresus*, and happier than a *Dives*, though he be destitute of all other Favours;—and if he possess all other Favours, and yet be destitute of these, he is infinitely more miserable than *Lazarus* at the Gate.

BUT there is another astonishing Branch of the Priesthood of Christ: As though all the Sufferings of his Life and the bitter Agonies of his Death had not been enough, He is now ascended into Heaven, in the Character of a great High Priest,—there forever to interceed with the Father, that the glorious Benefits of his Death may be communicated to his People. O how glorious! unspeakable glorious! does the Lord
JESUS

JESUS CHRIST appear in his Prophetical Office ! And while I am speaking, Myriads, and Myriads above, are filling Heaven with his Praises.

3. MY FRIENDS, let us view the Amiability of Christ in his *Kingly Office* : This is his last and highest Office ; by this He carries on and executes his intended Plan of Man's Salvation ; without This each of his other Offices had been in vain ;—but in the Execution of this Office, he applies his own Redemption to his People : “ He is made of God unto us Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification and Redemption.”

THE Office of a King is to govern and protect his People, and subdue their Enemies : So Christ governs his People by his Laws ; in order to which he first breaks the Dominion of Sin, and erects his own Kingdom of Grace in their Hearts ; he gives them that Principle of Holiness and divine Life, without which no Man can be happy, and for the want of which, all Men are naturally miserable. Christ's Kingdom lies out of the View of the World,—it lies in the Heart ; where that Spirit prevails, that was in Christ, there is his Kingdom,—and when this Kingdom begins, the Man's eternal Happiness begins ; now some little Part of Heaven is begun in the Soul. O happy, thrice happy they, who know how sweet it is ! This is to have the Heart *circumcised*,—to be *born again*, to become a *new Creature* ; now old Things are done away, and all Things become new ! Now the Will is bowed ;—the Affections are changed ; and the Creature has new Discoveries, new Aims, and new Joys ; O Joys, how substantial ! such as the World cannot give nor take ; and yet the World despise them, and wonder and perish.

CHRIST

CHRIST having erected his Kingdom of Grace in the Hearts of his People, he leads them on to his Kingdom of Glory. He protects them from the Assaults of their Adversaries.—Satan is the Accuser of the Brethren, but him Christ vanquished and slew at his Death, and will now ward off his fiery Darts, from his People ; and he will ever guard and defend his Church, that all the Gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. And at the Day of Judgment, he shall gather his Saints from the four Corners of the Earth, and in glorious Triumph, shall conduct them from this World, then on Flames, to yonder Kingdom of Glory, which He is now gone to prepare, by his Mediation, for them.

Now say, O Believer, say, is not the Lord JESUS CHRIST altogether lovely in his Person, as God-Man, Mediator ? Is he not altogether lovely in his Offices ?—as a most glorious Prophet to teach and instruct his People by his Word and Spirit ?—Is he not altogether lovely, as our great High-Priest, to make Atonement for our Sins, by his compleat Oblation ? And as a most powerful Advocate, who ever lives to interceed for us, before the Throne of God ?—Is he not altogether lovely in his Kingly Office, as one, who through his infinite Mercy, hath already erected his Kingdom of Grace in our Hearts, and we hope will shortly conduct us, and all his People, to his Kingdom of Glory ? O Believer, shall not thy Soul echo her loud and fervent Amen to the Language of the Church ;—*Yea, He is altogether lovely !*

IMPROVEMENT.

I M P R O V E M E N T.

IF CHRIST be such a glorious Saviour, let perishing Sinners be persuaded to embrace Him. O Sinners, have you this lovely CHRIST? is he transformed in your Souls? if not, and you die in this Condition, as you may before you have read this, you must be eternally damned, and there will be no Help for you. What think ye of CHRIST? most Men think little about Him;—and perhaps your Affections have been mainly upon other Objects,—and this lovely Jesus has been shut out of your Hearts 'till this Day. But what do you think of him now?—is there any Amiability in Him?—Or can you see the least Blemish in Him?—Is he not altogether lovely? I am come to present Him to you, in all his Glory, and will you receive Him, or can you have the Hardness to reject Him?—What, can you reject one that has died for you?—One that has shed his Heart's Blood for you?—One who has so often knocked at your Hearts, and waited long for Admission?—Will you thrust Him away? Who knows but He may never call again?—Who knows but he may soon shut the Door of Mercy against you forever?—and where are you then! O Sinner, have you no Need of this blessed Saviour?—What is your Condition? let Conscience speak, are you not Sinners, out of Christ?—and in the broad Way to Destruction? and what is unspeakably more awful in your Case, perhaps you are now secure, as most of the World are;—and while you see no Danger, the Devil is leading you blindfold into Hell. And as Thousands have done, you will never *think* 'till Death surprize you into the fiery Lake. Believe me, ye Secure, your short-lived Mirth must soon end in Repentance or in eternal Roarings.—

Roarings.—O think of *Dives* ! Awake, awake, O prayerless, unconverted Sinner, believe me, you are now in the Hands of an angry God,—his Law condemns you, and nothing but his undeserved Mercy keeps you out of Hell. Every Moment you are suspended, by nothing more than the brittle Thread of Life, over the Lake that burns with Fire and Brimstone; and when a single Breeze of God's Anger awakes against you, that Moment you fall, you sink and are ingulphed in Hell's dark and fiery Regions forever.—This, in the Name of God, is your Condition, Sirs! And have you no desire to accept of this glorious Saviour, when He extends the Arms of his Mercy to receive you from Wrath to Glory ?

I HOPE, through divine Grace, I am able to recommend Him to your Choice. I must say He is the chiefest among ten Thousands and altogether lovely : He is every Thing that your Souls can want.—Do you feel yourselves *lost*, miserable and helpless ? are you willing to part with all Things for a Saviour ? Then CHRIST is just such a Saviour as you want,—“ He is able to save them to the uttermost that come to God by Him.” Heb. vii. 25. And if you would come, “ He is the Way and the Truth and the Life.”

O BE persuaded to renounce all Sin, believe in CHRIST, embrace Him for your only Portion, and Portion enough, and serve him for ever ! and serve him with Delight ! O Sinner, in GOD's Name, come Home to the Lord JESUS CHRIST,—say as the four Lepers, when they fell into the Host of the *Syrians*, or as *Esther* going before the King ; or say as the Prodigal, “ I perish with Hunger, I will arise and go to my Father's House, there is Bread enough and

C

to

to spare. " O say, as the importunate Woman, " Lord, let me be a Dog, if I may eat of the Crumbs that fall from thy Table. "

COME to CHRIST with a humble and broken Heart for Sin ; He was never deaf to the Prayer of a Penitent. Smite upon your Breast, as the Publican ; " God, be merciful to me a Sinner ! " Cry, with the Leper, Unclean ! Unclean !—Come and let him wash you from all Sin, in his own Blood ; Come weary and heavy laden, and you shall find Rest. Come thirsting to that allsufficient and overflowing Fountain of Salvation, and you shall be filled. O ! let all who would be saved, come into this Ark, before God's fiery Deluge shall overwhelm the Wicked.

Now say, what is there wanting in Christ, that a Soul stands in need of ?

Do you want a Saviour, who is God-Man in one Person, able to reconcile you to God ? Such an one is the Lord JESUS CHRIST.

Do you want a Prophet, who shall enlighten your Minds, by his Word and Spirit ? Such an one is the Lord JESUS CHRIST.

Do you want a Priest to fulfil the divine Law, which you have broken ? CHRIST hath done it by his holy Life.

Do you want one who shall suffer the infinite Weight of God's Wrath which you deserve ? CHRIST hath done it by his sufferings on the Cross.

Do you want an Advocate with the Father ? JESUS CHRIST is such an one.

Do

Do you want a King to undertake and accomplish your whole Salvation? JESUS CHRIST is a King able to save to the uttermost !

THIS is the glorious Saviour ! and who can reject Him. I know that many will reject him,—and I fear the most who may hear this Discourse, will reject him. But there may be some poor trembling Souls ; for their Encouragement, let them hear the amazing Invitations of CHRIST. Though his Amiability might engage every one to sue for his Favour, yet he condescends to invite the most miserable and guilty.

HEAR, O Sinners, whether you are stupid or awakened, hear the most endearing Calls of this blessed Saviour. He says, “ Turn ye, turn ye, for why will ye die ? Look unto me all ye Ends of the Earth and be ye saved.” He left his Father’s Bosom, and came into the World to save that which was lost.—In his own Person he invites, “ Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you Rest.” —“ If any Man thirst, let him come unto me and drink.” “ Behold I stand at the Door and knock.” “ The Spirit and the Bride say come, and let him that is athirst come, and whosoever will, let him take of the Water of Life freely.” These, and many others, are sweet Invitations, which Thousands have accepted, and are this Day, with their golden Harps, surrounding the Throne of God and the Lamb ; and while they sing the new Song, the high Arches of Heaven ring with their Hallelujahs. These are the Invitations that many Thousands have rejected, and are now roaring with Devils in the fiery Lake : The Smoke of their Torments ascendeth up for ever and ever.

AND now, Sinners, you must choose for yourselves, O I adjure you by every Thing that is good, *Be Wise* : Had you rather be happy in Life,—calm in Death,—joyful in the Resurrection, and glorious thro' all Eternity, than to be miserable in Time, desperate in Death, raving in Judgment, and a Companion with Devils in Hell's dark and fiery Regions forever, then embrace the Lord JESUS CHRIST, who is a Saviour infinitely glorious and lovely.—Nor put off 'till to Morrow ;—that I fear some of you have done too long already !

O WHAT shall I say to you old Offenders, who know not JESUS CHRIST ? You are near the dark Doors of Hell,—just ready to enter in, like Brands that begin to sing, and Hell's hottest Flames will soon kindle upon you, unless they are quenched by the Blood of that Jesus whom you have ever despised !—And will you despise him any longer ? O accept this Offer ! Your Shadows grow long ; and your Sun is hiding behind the *Apalachian Mountains*.

My Heart melts with Compassion for my Fellow Youth ; O my dear Coevals, away, away with youthful Sins and Vanities !—Remember your Creator,—turn unto the Lord ; and upon your Knees seek 'till you obtain the one Thing needful ;—persevere in Holiness 'till you arrive to Blessedness.—You and I must soon stand at CHRIST's Bar : If Matters go on among you as in *New-England*, it seems a most all our Age will be damned. O this Thought, like a Sword, pierces me to the Heart !—O it may make a Minister of Christ weep, to see how few, among our sprightly Generation, appear to know the Lord !—I hope you will hear me ; I speak at a Distance ; and am willing to speak to the Ends of the Earth.

YE Children, come to CHRIST ; he invites you as a Parent ; seek him with all your Hearts ; love him more than Father and Mother ; he died to save you.—Nor dare to Sin against him ;—he sees you every where : And if you, or any Body, will not pray to him, he will throw you, Soul and Body, into the Flames of Hell, where you will cry and roar forever and ever.

YE Negroes, come away to CHRIST ; He invites you ; he died for you ; and is willing to wash your Souls in his own Blood : If you will trust in Him, and keep his Commandments, he will save you ; but if you will not, he will damn you forever.

AND let every Person, from the highest to the lowest, be assured, that unless you are *Born again*, you cannot see the Kingdom of God ; unless you are renewed in the Temper of your Minds, by the Spirit of God, you will be as surely damn'd, as if you were now in Hell. If this had not been the Doctrine of JESUS CHRIST, many would call it Enthusiasm ;—but none are so bold Enthusiasts, as they who attempt to subvert it : Let those who labour to remove this troublesome Stone, take heed that it don't return upon them, and grind them to Powder.

BUT to awakened Sinners, I renew my Address. Ye wounded Souls, sick of all Sin, there is Balm in Gilead, and a Physician there ; as the wounded looked to the brazen Serpent, so look to a bleeding Jesus on the Cross ; and his mortal Wounds shall give you immortal Life.—Hear *Paul's* Answer to "*What shall I do to be saved ?*" Believe on the Lord JESUS CHRIST, and thou shalt be saved. Come with all
your

your Burden of Sin, and bring every Affliction and lay them down at Jesus's Feet : He has relieved as great a Sinner as you,—nor did he ever reject one ;—He is now as ready to save Souls as ever he was to heal the Bodies of the Sick : O that overflowing Fountain ! that Ocean of Grace ! it can never be exhausted : And why should one thirsty Soul perish ? it is not the Will of God.—Rest in nothing short of a vital Union to the Lord JESUS CHRIST, by Faith ;—let his Kingdom be set up in your Hearts ;—let his Spirit reign within you.—Resolve by his Grace, that whatever you lose, whether Interest, Name, Friends, or Life itself, yet you will live and die by his Cause ;—and if called to it, be one of those who loved not their Lives unto the Death. And when you retire to your Closet, say, “ Good Lord, let all I am, and all I have, be devoted to Thee forever :—Here is my Head to know Thee,—my Heart to love Thee,—my Tongue to praise Thee,—my Ears to hear, thy Voice,—my Hands and Feet to do thy Will ;—and let all my Powers,—my Influence,—my Interests,—my every Thing, be made to serve thy glorious Cause. ”

IN FINE, choose GOD for your Portion,—CHRIST for your Saviour,—the HOLY SPIRIT for your Sanctifier,---Heaven for your Home,---Praises and Hallelujahs for your eternal Employment,---and a Life of Holiness in this World as the only Way that shall lead us to Life everlasting, in the World to come ;---where may we shortly meet, and be forever happy in beholding,---enjoying, and praising Him, who is altogether lovely. Which may GOD grant for CHRIST's Sake. A M E N.

XX

S E R M O N



S E R M O N II.

The Amiability of JESUS CHRIST.

SOLOMON'S SONG, V. 16.

Yea, He is altogether lovely.

THERE are many strange Things, but the strangest of all pass unnoticed. The Security of Sinners is astonishing, and I think must be affecting to every Saint: How are Thousands, around us, dropping into Hell, from between the Arms of a Saviour; and nothing can alarm their Fears! If we should call upon Stones and Trees, they would hear us and melt into Tears; but when we call upon Sinners, they are offended because we border them. In this Respect we are very troublesome Men; but bare with us, Sirs, we shall not trouble you long: If there are Ministers in Hell, you will hear no Preaching from them; and though Christ shall be there, it will be by his Power to damn, and not by his Grace to save you.

I HAVE

I HAVE spoken of the Glories of CHRIST in his Person and Offices. Once more let us follow the Lamb through some of the important Scenes of his Stations of Humiliation and Exaltation.

I. How amiable doth the Lord JESUS appear in his State of Humiliation ! Let us behold Him who was the Brightness of his Father's Glory and express Image of his Person, descending from his Father's Bosom, from the Realms of Bliss, from the Hallelujahs of Thousands of Angels, down to this World of Sin and Woe ! O how did this blessed Son of God condescend to unrobe himself of Glory, and assume Humanity, that he might bear our Infirmities !—Let us go to *Betlehem*, and see his Nativity : The Lord that made the World is come into the World ;----and what is the Pomp and Splendor of his Appearance ? O see that most lovely Babe laid in a Manger ; surrounded by the Beasts of the Stall, less barbarous than they, whose Lives he came to redeem.

BUT how soon did they seek the Life of Him that giveth Life to all, and hath now given his own Life to redeem us from Death ? *Herod* says “ Slay Him.” O why did not our Lord, upon this, dash the World into Hell, and ascend to his Father's Bosom !—But he fled to *Egypt*, that it may be said “ Out of *Egypt* have I called my Son. ”

IN *Galilee* he appears in the Form of a Servant, rejected and despised : The Foxes have Holes, and the Birds of the Air have Nests, but the Lord of the Universe hath not where to recline his weary Head.

He

HE weeps over *Jerusalem* ! And he weeps over Sinners who will not weep for themselves !—He rides in Triumph !—He teaches in the Temple and confounds, but not converts his Enemies.

O LET us behold Him, through that important Scene of Transactions on the Night before his Crucifixion !—Behold Him at the Table !—in the Garden !—Hear his Complaint ! “ My Soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto Death.”—Behold him in his Agony ;—he prays ; an Angel strengthens him ; he sweats great Drops of Blood ; he concludes, as we ever ought ; *Father, thy Will be done.*

O BEHOLD this GOD, this Man, cloathed with Innocence, arraigned at *Pilate's* Bar ! Behold Him crowned with Thorns,—beaten,—spit upon, and in Derision cloathed with a gorgeous Robe, and buffeted !

BEHOLD Him ascending *Calvary's* bloody Hill, bearing his Cross, and what was infinitely more weighty, the Sins of the World upon his Shoulders !—And if we would see the greatest Wonder, that the Angels ever beheld, and a Wonder, at which the Sun hid his Face, let us behold Him nail'd to that accursed Tree ! there suspended, by his Hands and Feet, six painful Hours : He bleeds ! He prays ! He pardons ! He thirsts ! He cries with a loud Voice, “ Father, into thy Hands I commend my Spirit ; and bowing his Head he gave up the Ghost ! ”—Nor was it Death that filled his Soul with this Agony ; it was the infinite Weight of his Father's Wrath !

O SEE that most lovely Corps !—That Brow where Innocence sits enthroned !—Them Eyes, that once burst, with Tears of Compassion, over his Enemies !—them pale and livid Lips, that just now said to the Thief, “ This Day shalt thou be with me in Paradise ! ”—Them Hands and Feet that always went about to do his Father’s Will !—O see them Wounds, the Blood streaming from each ! Each Wound has a Tongue, which calls for Mercy, Mercy, Mercy, on his Enemies ! O ! that Sinners would not provoke this Mercy, to turn into Wrath against them !

O LET us follow him down into the cold Tomb ; there he lies to soften, and with the richest Perfume he sweetens a Bed for all his Saints. But for whom did the blessed Jesus undergo all these Sufferings ? Can our Lips pronounce it ?—It was for thee, O Sinner, it was for thee if thou wilt cordially accept them ;—but if thou despise them, they shall turn upon thine own Head.

II. OF the Glory of CHRIST in his State of Exaltation. On the third Day, we behold Him shaking off the Powers of Hell and Death ; having conquered them, in their own Dominion, he rises like one in glorious Triumph and shouts his Victory ! —“ I ascend to my Father, and to your Father, “ to my God, and to your God.” O how glorious does our Lord appear in his Resurrection ! Now this is he who liveth and was dead, and is alive for evermore, and he wears the Keys of Hell and Death lashed in his Girdle.—“ He cometh from *Edom*, with died Garments from *Bozrah* ; glorious in his Apparel ! traveling in the Greatness of his Strength, —and he is mighty to save.” Isa. 63. 1.

AND

AND forty Days after our Lord's Resurrection, he taketh Leave of his Disciples, and ascends into Heaven, where he sits enthron'd and exalted at the Right-Hand of the Father ; and this Solemnity was adorned with a Vision of Angels.—Nor is this the last we shall behold Him ;—He cometh in his own Glory, and in the Glory of his Father, with an innumerable Retinue of Angels and Saints, to judge the World. Then we shall see him, as he is ; we shall see Him upon his great white Throne. O hear his sweet Invitation to all his dear Saints ; “ Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you.” O ! Joy ! Saints, Joy, Joy forevermore !

BUT Sinners, behold Him, with angry Frowns turning to the left,—hear his last Words to you, “ Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting Fire, prepared for the Devil and his Angels.” Then howl ! let Sinners howl that scoff'd before ! But Saints, you are not to tarry here, CHRIST will conduct you, from this World on Flames, to that *New Jerusalem*, where with Angels you shall forever surround His Throne, and worship Him who liveth forever and ever.

AGAIN, CHRIST is altogether lovely in his Relations to the Believer : He is the Believer's God,—and King,—and Father,—and Brother,—and his most constant and invariable Friend. And what, O ye Saints, can ye desire more ?—He is altogether lovely in his Ordinances,—in his Calls, and in his Promises ; and there is no end to his Loveliness. And lastly, I think *He is altogether lovely.*

I M P R O V E M E N T.

IF CHRIST be thus lovely in his Person, Offices, Stations and Relations to his People, on Earth, what is He in Heaven!—Here we have, at most, but a Glimpse of his Glory, and that, often, as much as the poor Saint can contain,—but there they behold Him Face to Face. And while we are here speaking of his Glory, what a shining Company of Saints are surrounding His Throne above! There are the holy Patriarchs,—the Prophets,—and Apostles, and Martyrs, and all the dear Saints that have gone before us!—How glorious did they appear in St. *John's* Vision, standing upon Mount *Sion*, and the LAMB of GOD in the midst of them!—With what Harmony do they sing the *New Song*! And there are now some of our dear Acquaintances, who have lately taken the start of us, and leap into Glory!—There they are drinking the full Draughts of that Salvation, they once thirsted for.—Shall I return the Lots of such an One? my Soul had rather follow, than wish them back!—O! let us often think of getting Home to our Father's House! There is glorious Company there! CHRIST is gone to prepare the Place; and He will soon conduct us there.

IF CHRIST appears so glorious now, how will He appear at the Day of Judgment?—The beloved Disciple says, “We know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him, as he is.” Yes, Believers, we shall then be the Spectators of his Glory: We shall behold this eternal Judge, when he rides the Circuit down the Skies, to judge the World. O! What glorious Pomp and Majesty he wears! How glorious that Countenance! The Heavens vanish at his Appearance!—How glorious his Attendants!
Millions

Millions of Angels and Saints surround his Banner !
 — How glorious that Voice that shall shake the Creation ! *Awake, awake* ye Dead, and come to Judgment !
 How glorious them Smiles of Love upon his Saints !
 “ *O come ye Blessed !* ” And you will pronounce Him glorious, when he shall turn to the Wicked, and frown them into Hell ! O how glorious will King Jesus appear, at the Head of all his Saints, when he shall conduct them, from this World, to that City, that *Canaan*, where unseen Glories dwell !—Blessed be GOD, there we hope to live—and behold—and enjoy—and praise Him forever ! Are any of the dear Saints now in Sorrow and Heaviness, remember, O my Brethren, it is but a few more weary Nights, and you shall be ever with the Lord.

LET the full and free Offers of this glorious Saviour, be made to the most guilty and miserable Sinner. Yes, O Sinners, to you, even to you, this blessed Son of GOD is once more offered in all his Glory : GOD the Father invites you to be reconciled to Him, through his Son ; and CHRIST invites you to be one with him, that you may share in the Glories of his Kingdom. And now what shall I say ? Can you reject such Grace as this ? Are you resolved to outsin the Devils ?—Think, O Sinners, once more think on the Amiability of JESUS CHRIST ;—Consider his Sufferings ! Think how his Heart bleeds for you ! Think how his Eyes are weeping over you ! Hark ! hear his precious Calls inviting you ! Look to *Calvary*, and see his Arms extended on the Cross to receive you !—and say, shall not these, and his ten Thousand Charms, persuade you to embrace him in all his Glory ?—If you accept of Him, you accept of Pardon and compleat Salvation ; but if you reject Him, you reject the only Remedy that is, or can be provided for you.

BUT

BUT what shall I say to those who will not love the **LORD JESUS CHRIST** ? **GOD** says “ Let such be *Anathema Maranatha*.” Sirs, do you hear ? **GOD** curses you. It may be you think little about it ; if so, your Curse is so much the greater : **GOD** curses you now ; —hear Him ; he says, “ Cursed art thou in the City, “ cursed art thou in the Field, cursed is thy Basket and “ thy Store, cursed art thou in the Fruit of thy Body, “ and in the Fruit of thy Ground, cursed art thou in “ thy coming in, and cursed in thy going out.” And if you will not love **CHRIST** more than your Sins, he will soon cloath himself in Vengeance, and curse you to the lowest Hell. And do you think you can bear **GOD**’s eternal Curse ? Think, how was it with **CHRIST** when he bore the Curse of God for you ? Though he was infinitely more able to endure the Wrath than you, yet how did his Sufferings make him cry, *My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me !*—It these Things were done in **CHRIST**, what shall be done in you ?—O Sinners, while you love not the **LORD JESUS CHRIST**, think of your Danger : Above you sits an angry **GOD** frowning,—beneath Hell is gaping to receive you,—around you are Devils waiting like Lions for their Prey, to drag your Souls down to the fiery Lake.—I believe there is not a Saint upon Earth who would venture being in your Condition, one Minute, for a thousand Worlds ; I know that I would not.—And yet are you secure ? your Security is one of the most amazing and astonishing Things in the Universe ! It grieves and amazes God’s People, from Day to Day !—And though you will not believe me, it is a Miracle of Grace that you are not this Instant roaring in Hell !—You think you are not so great Sinners ; but why ? Did you ever say, *Lord, thy Will be done* ? If not, you never breathed without sinning ;

—and

—and what can screen you from Hell?—You think you can bow your Wills, and turn to God when you please :—That you will do when you raise the Dead!—GOD must bow your Wills, and turn you, or you will never turn, 'till you turn into Hell. “ You must be born again, or you cannot see the Kingdom of God.” *John* III. 3. Regeneration is nothing short of the divine Life begun in the Soul: This Change is the *strait Gate*, that few enter in at; but all must enter it that enter into Heaven. When GOD by his Spirit produces this mighty Change in the Heart of a poor Creature, with how much Joy doth he embrace an offered Saviour! O it is with Joy unspeakable and full of Glory! And now doth this appear strange and foolish to you?—Very well; the Scripture says it shall appear strange and foolish to all who never experienced it: “ The natural Man receiveth not the “ Things of the Spirit of God; for they are Foolishness “ unto him.” Take heed therefore least, as many Thousands have done, ye despise and wonder and perish—But with Prayers and Tears I leave you in the Hands of that GOD, who will be merciful to those, and none but those, who accept of his SON for their Portion forever.

BUT did I say I will leave you? That I cannot! by GOD's Assistance I will accost you once more.

WHAT shall I say to the Sons of Vice and Profaneness? I will address them in their own Language.

O ye God-dam—rs, away, away with that Language; in GOD's Name, away with it down to Hell, from whence it came! Or Noblemen, or Clowns, nor think me half as bold as you,—nor think yourselves

yourself secure of what you imprecate ;—GOD will not hold you guiltless. There is now a Thunder-Bolt forming over your Heads, big with Wrath, which, if not soon diverted by your Repentance, will fall with irresistible Force, and blast you to Destruction ! Where are them Tongues, that were made to praise their Creator ?—Let them call for Mercy, as they have called for his Vengeance !—Nor let a Blasphemer despair, if he be out of Hell ;—there is still Hope ! But no Hope for the Impenitent ! therefore cease, ye Impenitent, to swear : He is both a Clown and a Fool, who challenges the Vengeance he can neither avert, nor escape.

YE Drunkards, what will you do, when you lie chained on the torrid Zone of Hell ?—Not even a Drop of Water ! while the fierce Billows of *Jehovah's* Wrath are running over you !—But God will pledge you with the Cup of his eternal Wrath. If you don't thirst for Salvation, you will never taste it ; and Experience will soon teach you that Truth, “ No Drunkard shall inherit the Kingdom of God. ”

WHAT will GOD do to the *prayerless Family* ? He said, “ I will pour out my Fury upon them. ” O let your Houses become *Bethels*, and your Hearts Temples for the HOLY GHOST, and your Lips will be Doors of Praise to the Most High.

How is it my Friends, with some of you, about *the Sabbath* ?—Is this holy Day a Burden to you ?—What would you do, were you in Heaven ?—That holy Place would be a Prison ! I beg, in the Lord's Name, that you will let his Day be revered.

AND

AND I beseech you, by all the Sanctity of your Baptism, that you keep your Bodies from all Uncleaness ; they are the Temples of the Lord ; remember—
 “ Nothing that defileth shall enter into that City, the *New Jerusalem*.”

O LET every Sinner, how great soever your Sins have been, turn unto the LORD, and he will have Mercy upon you, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. Plead with Him to display the Riches of his Grace, and get Glory to his great Name in your Salvation.—Nor delay this important Matter a Day longer,—for every Moment that you are out of CHRIST, you are dropping into Hell. Awake, and fly from the Wrath to come ; escape to JESUS, before the Storm of God’s Wrath shall fall upon you : Fly, fly, as *Lot* to the Mountain, lest you be consumed.

BUT alas ! after all we have said, many will reject.—O that more than diabolical Ingratitude !—Hath the great King of the Universe made the richest Entertainment that all the upper World can afford ; and hath he sent his Servants to compel the most guilty Sinners to come to it,—and now must we return that most disagreeable Message, Lord, they will not come ?—Alas for them ! My Soul must weep in secret Places ;—I am pained at my Heart.—I could wish my Head were Waters, and mine Eyes a Fountain of Tears, that I might weep for the poor Souls, who are going down to the Regions of black Despair.

O YE Secure, ye Despisers of CHRIST, through our Land at this Day, shall we, the Ministers of Christ, retort upon you, what was often retorted upon the hardened Jews,—“ Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand ;

understand ; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive ?"—You that have been awakened, but not converted, take heed what become of these Seasons ; they will end in eternal Life or eternal Death.—Take Care that you be not the *miry Places*,—or that you be not that Ground, which receiveth in the Rain, but bringeth forth Thorns and Briers, and is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing, whose End is to be burned.

LET the *dear Saints* abound in ardent Thanks to the GOD of all Grace, for this unspeakable Gift of his SON, and the numberless Mercies we receive through him.—Remember St. *Paul's* Words to the *Philippians* ; “ Rejoice in the Lord alway ; and again I say rejoice.”—Nor will we lose the Memory of that sweet Exhortation of the beloved Disciple ; “ Beloved, let us love one another. ”

FINALLY, *my Brethren*, pray for me, who am the Chief of Sinners, and the least of Saints, that God will enable me to go on, to the last, with Fidelity and Success, preaching this glorious SAVIOUR to a perishing World.

A M E N.

